



FEMA

Disaster Summary
Chemical Leak – Charleston, West Virginia
Sunday, January 12, 2014 (6:00 pm EST)
Updates in Blue

Background

On January 9, 2014, Freedom Industries, a producer of specialty chemicals for the mining, steel, and cement industries, had leaked up to 7,500 gallons of the chemical *4-methylcyclohexane methanol (MCHM)* into the Elk River, near the Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant in Charleston, West Virginia.

The leak has affected the water supply for residents in nine counties—Boone, Jackson, Kanawha, Lincoln, Putnam, Cabell, Clay, Logan and Roane. Although the leak was stopped, a Do Not Use order was implemented, affecting approximately 300,000 residents who are now unable to use the water for drinking, bathing, cooking or washing.

Current Situation

- The U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) has determined that drinking water poses no adverse health risks at an MCHM level at or below one part per million (ppm). (3366-EM-WV, SITREP #10)
- The State is currently conducting water testing across the impacted area to determine the level of contamination and will continually test outflow of the water plant, seeking to observe 24 consecutive hours of readings below 1.0 ppm. In addition, the State will be testing key points in the 1,700 mile pipeline system to ensure the majority of the readings are at or below the 1.0 ppm level. If both of those milestones are achieved, they will announce a systematic plan to purge lines and bring elements of the water system back on line. (3366-EM-WV, SITREP #10)
- Initial testing indicates that readings of MCHM are dropping, meaning that due to diffusion, the contamination may be decreasing. (3366-EM-WV, SITREP #10)
- There have been no confirmed fatalities; however, a total of 127 residents have been treated at local area hospitals, with five of those residents requiring admission. (3366-EM-WV, SITREP #10)
- WV State Health Operations Center screened all hospitals, long term care facilities and dialysis centers, and there are no unmet needs. All hospitals are on emergency water supplies with their tanks being filled from mobile tankers. (3366-EM-WV, SITREP #10)
- EPA has staff at the site in an advisory role to the company, contractor, and state partners; and in a monitoring role ensuring that the responsible party is remediating the site. (FEMA R3 DSAR, Jan 12)

FEMA Headquarters Response

- The National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) remains activated to Level III, with ESF-7.
- The National Watch Center remains at Watch/Steady State, providing 24/7 situational awareness.

FEMA Logistics (as of 6:00 p.m. EST)

WATER					
Destination	Requirement	Ordered	Shipped	TOTAL Received	TOTAL Issued to WV
FSA Charleston	1,400,000	1,483,494	1,483,494	1,483,494	1,483,494
FSA Charleston	800,000	800,000	800,000	753,930	137,202
FSA Charleston	800,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	585,648	
FSA Charleston	800,000	1,200,000	796,586	RDD 01/13/14	
TOTALS			4,680,080	2,823,072	1,620,696

MEALS					
Destination	Requirement	Ordered	Shipped	TOTAL Received	TOTAL Issued to WV
FSA Charleston	100,000	133,696	133,696	133,696	133,696
TOTALS			133,696	133,696	133,696

- The initial requirements for 1.4 million liters of water and 100k meals are complete; all resources have been issued to the State.
- Saturday, January 11, 2014 requirement for 800k liters of water:
 - 800k liters were shipped from Frederick and Cumberland distribution centers;
 - 754k liters have been received by the FSA;
 - 137k liters have been issued to the State.
- Sunday, January 12, 2014 requirement for 800k liters of water:
 - 800k liters shipped from Frederick and Cumberland distribution centers;
 - An additional 800k liters was procured via OCPO, for a total of 1.6 million liters
 - 585k liters received by the FSA; this number continues to rise as trucks are received in the system.
- Monday, January 13, 2014 requirement for 800k liters of water:
 - FEMA Logistics added an additional 400K liters, for a total of 1.2M liters;
 - 796k liters have shipped from Frederick, Atlanta and Cumberland distribution centers;
 - Trucks continue to load and ship at all locations today.

FEMA Regional / State Response

FEMA Region III:

- The Regional Response Coordination Center will transition to Level III activation, effective at 7:00 p.m. EST on January 12, 2014. All ESFs previously activated have been released; however, the Situational Awareness Section and the Resource Support Section will remain to support field operations.
- The Regional Watch Center remains at Watch/Steady State.
- An Interim Operating Facility has been established in Charleston, WV, with a Type-III IMAT and FEMA LNO in place.

West Virginia:

- The State EOC remains fully activated at Level I.
- The Governor declared a State of Emergency for the nine affected counties on January 9, 2014.

Declaration Activity:

- Emergency Declaration FEMA-3366-WV-EM, declared January 10, 2014:
 - For the counties of Boone, Clay, Jackson, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan, Putnam and Roane;
 - Provides emergency protective measures (Category B), limited to direct federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program at 75 percent federal funding.
- Amendment #1 to FEMA-3366-WV-EM, effective January 10, 2014:
 - Added Cabell County;
 - Provides emergency protective measures (Category B), limited to direct federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program.